

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 20268-0001

Before Commissioners:

Ruth Y. Goldway, Chairman;
Nanci E. Langley, Vice Chairman;
Mark Acton; and
Robert G. Taub

Competitive Product Prices
Express Mail & Priority Mail
Contract 5 (MC2009-18)
Negotiated Service Agreement

Docket No. CP2009-25

ORDER GRANTING MOTION FOR EXTENSION

(Issued March 9, 2012)

The Express Mail & Priority Mail agreement that is the subject of this docket is set to expire on March 11, 2012 (existing Express Mail & Priority Mail agreement).¹ The Postal Service requests that the Commission “grant a thirty-day extension to allow the existing contract to remain in effect until such time as the parties are able to reach a new agreement, and the Commission is able to complete its review of the new agreement.”²

The Postal Service represents that it has been working cooperatively to reach a new agreement with its current contract partner. *Id.* at 1. However, the Postal Service

¹ See Order No. 188, Order Concerning Express Mail & Priority Mail Contract 5 Negotiated Service Agreement, March 10, 2009.

² Motion of the United States Postal Service for Temporary Relief, March 8, 2012 (Motion).

states that due to “extenuating circumstances,” it has been unable to reach an agreement on the new contract’s terms in time for the Postal Service to file the new agreement 15 days prior to the intended effective date. *Id.* at 1-2. Without such an extension, service under the existing Express Mail & Priority Mail agreement would terminate. To maintain continuity, the Postal Service requests that the terms and conditions of the existing Express Mail & Priority Mail agreement be extended for 30 days.

The Motion is granted. The existing Express Mail & Priority Mail agreement is authorized to continue for 30 days from the current expiration date.³ Allowing the existing Express Mail & Priority Mail Contract agreement to remain in effect temporarily is in the public interest and will not prejudice any person.

It is ordered:

1. The Motion of the United States Postal Service for Temporary Relief, filed March 8, 2012, is granted.
2. The existing Express Mail & Priority Mail agreement is authorized to continue for 30 days from the current expiration date.

By the Commission.

Ruth Ann Abrams
Acting Secretary

³ This Order grants the full relief requested by the Postal Service. Nonetheless, due to the requirements of 39 U.S.C. 3632(b)(3), a further extension may need to be requested if the new replacement contract is filed fewer than 15 days prior to expiration of the 30-day extension granted by this Order.